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THIRSTY?

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HAX-TALLED

Struggling Flyers ax general manager and vice president Ron Hextall after four-plus seasons in the position. 20

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4 THINGS TO KNOW

WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

JOVAN ALFORD, SPORTS EDITOR

The Ron Hextall era officially came to an end on Monday in Philadelphia as Flyers president Paul Holmgren announced that Hextall was relieved of his executive vice president and general manager duties. Things have not gone well for the Flyers this season, who have been an utter disappointment. They currently have a record of 10-11-2 for 26 points and were blown out by the Toronto Maple Leafs 6-0 on Saturday night. With all that being said, something had to be done to shake up the organization. The Flyers will hold a press conference this morning at 11 a.m. ET to discuss the dismissal of Hextall.

FORMER PA AG KANE TO START PRISON SENTENCE

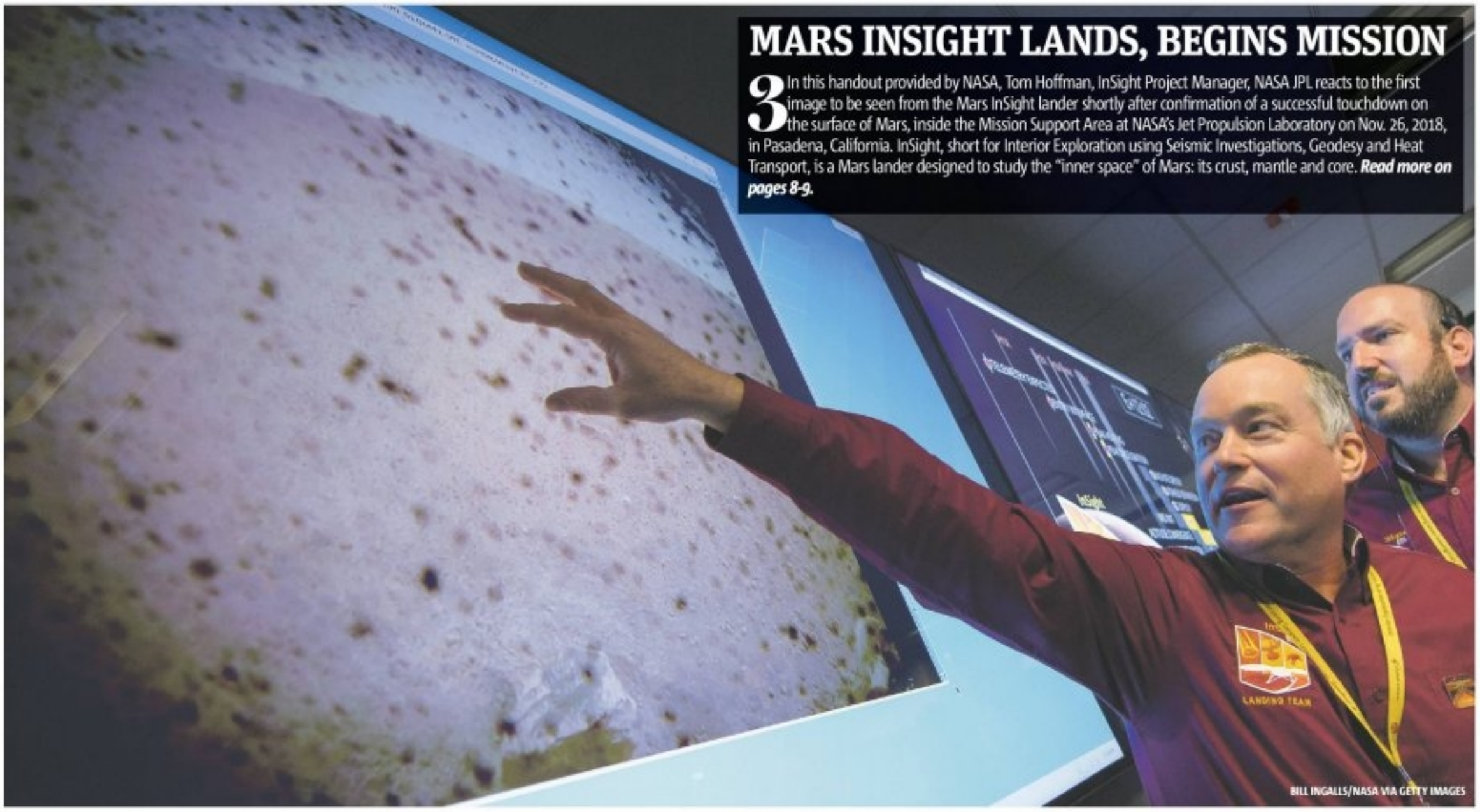
Two years after disgraced former Pennsylvania Attorney General Kathleen Kane was sentenced to prison for leaking confidential grand jury documents, she is now expected to finally begin her prison sentence. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on Monday rejected Kane's last legal appeal of the decision that sentenced her to serve prison time alongside the criminals she used to prosecute. Kane now faces her original 10- to 23-month sentence on two felony and seven misdemeanor charges related to perjury, obstructing the administration of law and engaging in official oppression. Kane, 52, was convicted back in October 2016 for leaking confidential grand jury documents to discredit her political opponents. But the chain of events that led to her fall from grace was set into motion back in 2014, when the Inquirer first broke the story that Kane had shut down an undercover sting of Harrisburg corruption undertaken by her predecessor, former AG Tom Corbett, without filing any criminal charges. ***Read more on page 10.***

SAM NEWHOUSE

BERNARDO BERTOLUCCI, OF "LAST TANGO" FAME, DIES

Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci, whose 1972 movie "Last Tango in Paris" shocked audiences with a notorious sex scene that came back to haunt him in his later years, died on Monday. Bertolucci, 77, died at his home in Rome after a long illness, his publicist said. He had been in bad health for years and confined to a wheelchair since the early 2000s following a back operation. "Last Tango," which starred Marlon Brando, was banned in several countries, including Italy, where it was not released for viewing until early 1987. It won Bertolucci an Oscar nomination and burnished his international reputation, but his follow-up, "1900," a five-hour historical epic starring Robert De Niro, Gerard Depardieu, Donald Sutherland and Burt Lancaster, marked the start of a lengthy period of commercial flops. He burst back with "The Last Emperor" in 1987, shot by his longtime cinematographer Vittorio Storaro, which took all nine Oscars for which it was nominated, reasserting Bertolucci's position as a filmmaker with a distinct vision. Born in Parma in central Italy, Bertolucci was the son of poet and film critic Attilio Bertolucci.

MARS INSIGHT LANDS, BEGINS MISSION



In this handout provided by NASA, Tom Hoffman, InSight Project Manager, NASA JPL reacts to the first image to be seen from the Mars InSight lander shortly after confirmation of a successful touchdown on the surface of Mars, inside the Mission Support Area at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory on Nov. 26, 2018, in Pasadena, California. InSight, short for Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport, is a Mars lander designed to study the "inner space" of Mars: its crust, mantle and core. ***Read more on pages 8-9.***

BILL INGALLS/NASA VIA GETTY IMAGES

'EL CHAPO' OVERSAW SHIPMENTS, BRIBES: WITNESS

Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman was "the boss" of Mexico's Sinaloa cartel, a witness told jurors in the accused Mexican drug lord's trial in Brooklyn federal court on Monday, contradicting the claim by Guzman's lawyers that his dominance of the drug trade was a myth. Miguel Angel Martinez, who described himself as a former manager in the cartel, took the witness stand on the sixth day of Guzman's drug trafficking trial, testifying under an agreement to cooperate with prosecutors. For his safety, court sketch artists were ordered not to draw an accurate likeness of him. "I knew that he was the boss," Martinez said when a prosecutor, Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Robotti, asked him about Guzman's role in the organization. "Since I met him, he would give all of us orders." Guzman, 61, was extradited from Mexico in January 2017 and faces life in prison if convicted. His lawyers are seeking to prove that another drug lord, Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada, actually ran the cartel and used Guzman as a scapegoat. Martinez said he began working for Guzman as a pilot and as a guide to other pilots on drug flights in 1987.

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ISTOCK IMAGES

Heavy rains cause severe flooding throughout the Philly region

Traffic delays and flooded roads made for a miserable Monday commute.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Philadelphia was hit with yet another storm just days after Thanksgiving, as the National Weather Service issued a flash flood advisory.

What started as a mere trickle in the early morning hours grew into a steady deluge that soaked pedestrians and created dangerous road conditions and poor visibility. Coastal flooding and flood watch warnings were in effect for most of the day.

"Another round of moderate to heavy rainfall is expected today across much of the area," the National Weather Service Mt. Holly station warned on social media on Monday. "This rain will be falling on already saturated ground & in areas that still have flooding issues from the heavy rain Sat. night. A flood watch has been issued for much of the region."

Various problems were reported across the city, which may have been related to the storm. Fender benders and disabled vehicles were reported over the course of the day on various roads, snarling traffic patterns.

On the 1500 block of Pratt Street, near the Frankford Transportation Center, a 65-year-old woman was pronounced dead at 2:10 p.m. after she was hit by a Route 5 SEPTA bus. No information was immediately available about how the collision occurred; the bus remained on the scene and police had not reported any arrests by Monday afternoon.

Philadelphia City Hall shut down for the day following a power outage. While it remained unclear whether the cause was connected to the rainfall, at 1:35 p.m. the office announced that the seat of municipal government would close for the remainder of the day due to an "unexpected power outage."

In Philadelphia, the Schuylkill River overflowed its banks along Kelly Drive, leading to the road being closed from Sedgley Drive to Strawberry Mansion. Columbus Boulevard flooded from Spring Garden Street to Dock Street. Numerous roads in Wilmington, Delaware, were also reportedly flooded.

In addition to flood and flash flood watches, heavy snow and dangerous wind gusts were forecast in northwestern Pa., as the ongoing arctic mass toward the midwestern U.S. brought heavy snow to other states. Motorists were urged to avoid travel if possible and to exercise caution traveling in northwestern Pa. and along the Allegheny ridges in southwestern Pa., Gov. Tom Wolf said.

"Heavy lake-effect snow and gusty winds could bring potentially dangerous travel conditions to parts of northwest Pa."

Gov. Tom Wolf

"Heavy lake-effect snow and gusty winds could bring potentially dangerous travel conditions to parts of northwest Pa. and along the ridgetops of the western Allegheny mountains," Wolf said in a statement. "Motorists should monitor conditions closely and be alert for rapidly changing conditions."

The remainder of the week is not expected to be as precipitation-heavy.

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Pennsylvania gaming heats up with casinos expanding statewide

Penn National Gaming Inc. looks to dominate the casino and slots market throughout the state.

A.D. AMOROSI
letters@metro.us

HOLLYWOOD CASINO IMAGE

The next two weeks should prove interesting for Pennsylvania casino-gaming watchers.

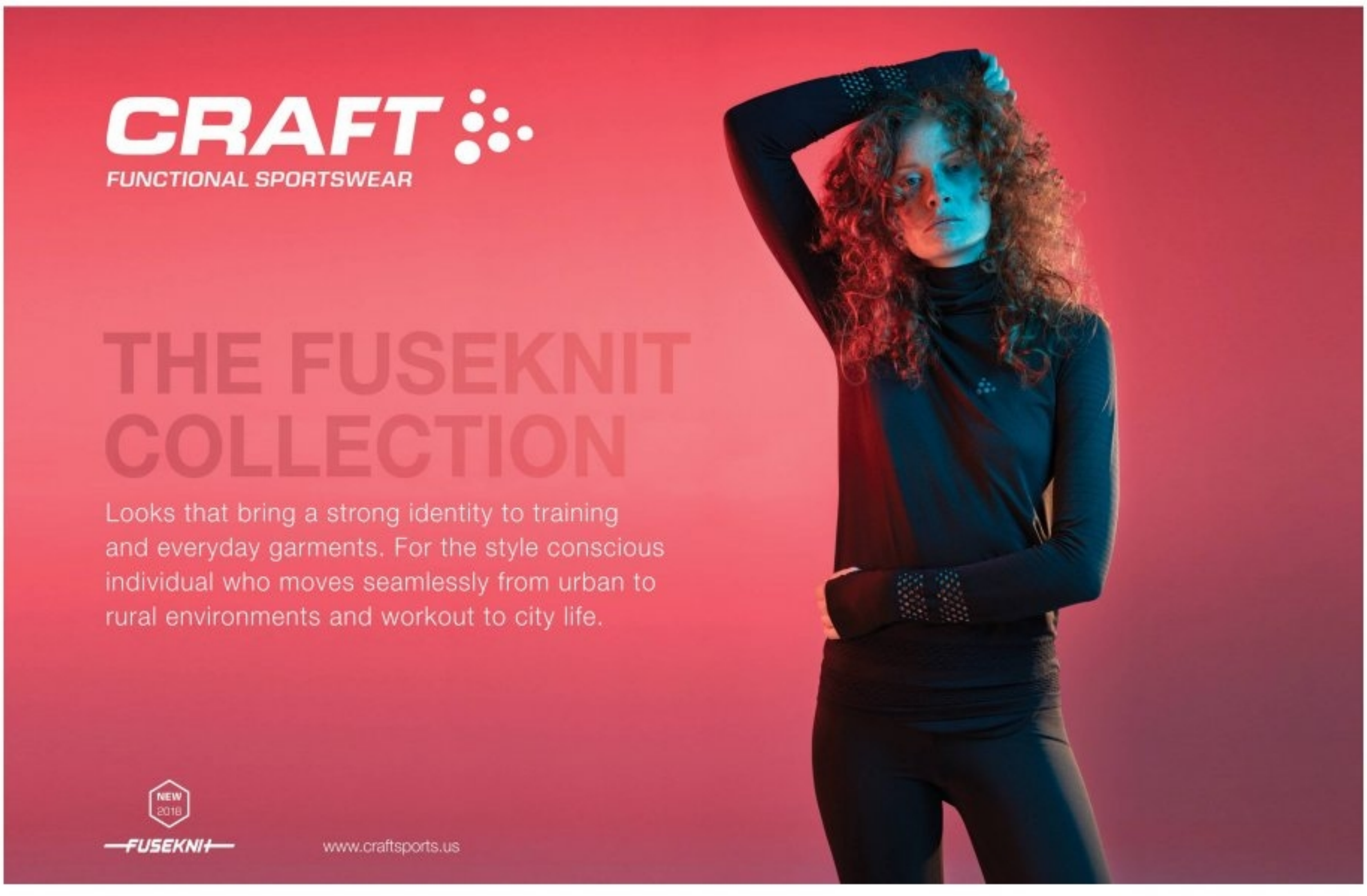
First, there's concrete news and movement with the long-awaited second Philly casino — Philly Live! Hotel & Casino at the former Holiday Inn at 900 Packer Ave. — now that Baltimore's Cordish Companies has announced it will snag complete ownership of the project's developer, Stadium Casino LLC., and buy out the interest of Stadium's partner, the peeps at Parx Casino in Bensalem. Since Stadium had the right to open a casino in Westmoreland County, Pa., Cordish will do that project as well — alone.

For now, however, a local favorite, Penn National Gaming Inc., a giant of the industry since 1972, and known for gaming and racing facilities as well as slot machines, is expanding.

"We operate 40 facilities in 18 jurisdictions across the U.S., making us the largest regional gaming operator in the country," said Jeff Morris, VP of public affairs and government relations for Penn National, who manages all public policy with each individual state. "We're most excited about our acquisition of Pinnacle Entertainment in October, a $3 billion purchase that included 12 new facilities. We've grown from 19,000 employees to 30,000-plus in just a

"We operate 40 facilities in 18 jurisdictions across the U.S., making us the largest regional gaming operator in the country."

Jeff Morris, VP of public affairs and gov't. relations, Penn National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month."

This deal includes the Hollywood Casino at the National Race Course and The Meadows in Western Pennsylvania as part of the Pinnacle takeover. And now, as of Halloween, Penn Gaming has put its application in for two new Category 4 facilities in Pa.: Hollywood Casino Morgantown, in Caernarvon Township, Berks County, (30 table games, 750 slot machines, a sports book); and another in York, Pa., at the one-time York Galleria space (24 table games, 500 slot machines to start). Both will feature signature restaurants, lounges and stage spaces for dining and entertainment.

"As far as sports betting goes, that is just another way to engage our customers and attract them to our property," claimed Morris. Penn Gaming's money is in slots and table games, and the amenities, such as restaurants, that surround the casino floor.

We had competitors who were looking to come in to the state and capture the surrounding markets, so we looked at our takeovers in York and Morgantown as both an offensive and defensive opportunity," said Morris, who is looking to provide gaming opportunities barely as far as the crow flies from another Penn National facility.

$110M - $120M

Current investment levels are between $110 million and $120 million per space, with the York space being built to a smaller scale than the 80,000-square-foot, 36 acres of land that holds the potential Morgantown hot spot.

"Where York is concerned, it's defensive, as it is 45 minutes from our Grantville location, so we'll hopefully get that overflow, plus we're close to Northern Maryland and other parts of Pennsylvania. With Morgantown, that's offensive strategy to grab the Western suburbs — abutting the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Interstate 176 and Morgantown Expressway connecting with Route 422 near Reading, all with very minimal work to get in and out of that location."

Each location's current investment levels are between $110 million and $120 million per space — counting application fees — with the York space being built to a smaller scale than the 80,000-square-foot, 36 acres of land that holds the potential Morgantown hot spot. "We can, however, go to the max in York if we see growth," Morris said. "What's unique there is that we're going into an already-existing facility, The Galleria, and moving into its first floor where stores had previously closed, and invigorating that location. Perhaps then we can attract new business to the mall. It's a real find. Like Morgantown, there are access roads already built and the location is well-known."

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NASA's "Curiosity" Mars rover snaps a selfie at a site called Vera Rubin Ridge on the Martian surface.

NASA's latest Mars craft lands for unprecedented seismic mission

InSight ends a 300-million-mile journey and begins its two-year mission to explore the deep interior of another world.

NASA's Mars lander InSight touched down safely on the surface of the Red Planet on Monday to begin its two-year mission as the first spacecraft designed to explore the deep interior of another world.

Engineers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) near Los Angeles said the successful landing was confirmed by signals relayed to Earth from one of two miniature satellites that were launched along with InSight and flying past Mars when it arrived shortly before 3 p.m. EST.

Members of the mission control team burst into applause and cheered in relief as they received data showing that the spacecraft had survived its perilous descent to the Martian surface.

The landing capped a six-month journey of 301 million miles (548 million km) from Earth, following its launch from California in May.

12.3K MPH

Carrying instruments that detect planetary heat and seismic rumblings never measured anywhere else but Earth, the stationary lander streaked into the thin Martian atmosphere at 12,300 miles (19,795 km) per hour.

Carrying instruments that detect planetary heat and seismic rumblings never measured anywhere else but Earth, the stationary lander streaked into the thin

NASA's "Curiosity" Mars rover. ALL REUTERS IMAGES

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The mission control team at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) reacts as the spaceship InSight lands on Mars in Pasadena, California, on Monday.

Martian atmosphere at 12,300 miles (19,795 km) per hour.

Its 77-mile descent was then slowed by atmospheric friction, a giant parachute and retro rockets, bringing the three-legged spacecraft to a gentle landing 6.5 minutes later. InSight came to rest as planned in the middle of a vast, barren plain called the Elysium Planitia, close to the planet's equator.

InSight will spend 24 months — about one Martian year — taking seismic and temperature readings to unlock mysteries about how Mars formed and, by extension, the origins of the Earth and other rocky planets of the inner solar system.

The stationary probe is programmed to pause for 16 minutes for the dust to settle, literally, around its landing site, before disc-shaped solar panels are unfurled like wings to provide power to the spacecraft.

Minutes after the landing, JPL controllers received a fuzzy photograph of the probe's new surroundings on Martian soil.

The 880-pound (360 kg) InSight — its name is short for Interior Exploration Using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport — marks the 21st U.S.-launched Mars mission, dating back to the Mariner fly-bys of the 1960s. Nearly two dozen other Mars missions have been sent from other nations.

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With final appeal rejected, Pennsylvania's former top prosecutor heads to prison

Former Pa. AG Kathleen Kane to serve 10- to 23-month sentence for leaking grand jury evidence and lying about it.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

POOL PHOTO

Two years after disgraced former Pennsylvania Attorney General Kathleen Kane was sentenced to prison for leaking confidential grand jury documents, she is now expected to finally begin her prison sentence.

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania on Monday rejected Kane's last legal appeal of the decision that sentenced her to serve prison time alongside the criminals she used to prosecute. Kane now faces her original 10- to 23-month sentence on two felony and seven misdemeanor charges related to perjury, obstructing the administration of law, and engaging in official oppression.

Kane, 52, was convicted back in October 2016 for leaking confidential grand jury documents to discredit her political opponents.

But the chain of events that led to her fall from grace was set into motion back in 2014, when the Inquirer first broke the story that Kane had shut down an undercover sting of Harrisburg corruption undertaken by her predecessor, former AG Tom Corbett, without filing any criminal charges. Kane reportedly discarded the results of the sting, saying that the sting only targeted black Democrats.

Kane was so outraged by the Inquirer leak that she leaked grand jury documents establishing she had investigated the Philly NAACP's former director to purportedly prove she was serious about corruption. She was later prosecuted for leaking the documents and then lying about it. She also released hundreds of sexist, racist emails swapped by former prosecutors at her office, in the scandal later known as "Porngate."

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Cyber Monday on track for US online shopping record

Cyber Monday was on track to bring in a record $7.8 billion in U.S. online sales, as millions of shoppers scoured for steep discounts on everything from Lego sets to big-screen TVs.

The marketing event was expected to pick up steam Monday evening as West Coast shoppers nab deals after work and those on the East Coast make purchases before bedtime, according to Adobe Analytics, which measures transactions from 80 of the top 100 U.S. retailers.

"Many shoppers have waited on certain purchases, with three hours tonight expected to bring in as much revenue as an average full day," said Taylor Schreiner, director of Adobe Digital Insights.

Target Corp. and Amazon.com Inc. were pulling out all the stops, offering free delivery with no minimum order requirement and bombarding shoppers with promotional emails.

GETTY IMAGES

Companies had logged $531 million in sales as of 10 a.m. ET, Adobe Analytics found.

On Wall Street, investors showed their enthusiasm. Shares of Amazon closed up 5 percent. Macy's Inc., Kohls Corp. and Target shares rose as well.

In another estimate, Mastercard SpendingPulse forecast a 25 percent jump in e-commerce sales to at least $3 billion, based on sales via the Mastercard payments network and estimates for other payment forms such as cash and check.

These U.S. forecasts still paled in comparison to Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.'s "Singles Day" earlier this month, when the Chinese e-commerce giant raked in $30.7 billion in sales.

Some industry observers saw a downside to the U.S. shopping frenzy.

Bob Phibbs, chief executive of New York-based consultancy The Retail Doctor, warned of potential store closures if brick-and-mortar players discounted items too heavily this holiday season.

"Online discounts and free shipping are significantly cutting into retailers' profits," he said. "Retailers are just spending money in the hopes that they don't lose too much more."

Toys were expected to have the biggest discounts, Adobe Analytics said, as retailers rush to fill the void left by the bankruptcy of top U.S. toy retailer Toys 'R' Us.

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Trump urges Mexico to send migrants home after border clash

Tensions continue in Tijuana as Central American immigrants try to seek asylum in the U.S.

President Donald Trump said on Monday Mexico should send Central American migrants seeking asylum in the United States back to their homelands, a day after U.S. authorities shut the country's busiest border crossing and fired tear gas into a crowd there.

Sunday's incident happened after a group of migrants in the Mexican border city of Tijuana rushed the border fencing.

It was the latest chapter in a saga that has pitted Trump's tough immigration line against thousands of migrants who have made their way north through Mexico from violent and impoverished Central American countries.

Tensions had been growing in Tijuana, and Trump said on Saturday the migrants would have to wait in Mexico until their individual asylum claims were resolved in the United States. That would be a significant shift in asylum policy that could keep Central Americans in Mexico for more than a year.

Trump went further on Monday, saying Mexico should send the Central Americans, mostly Hondurans, back home.

"Mexico should move the flag waving Migrants, many of whom are stone cold criminals, back to their countries. Do it by plane, do it by bus, do it anyway you want, but they are NOT coming into the U.S.A. We will close the Border permanently if need be. Congress, fund the WALL!" Trump tweeted.

Mexican government officials had no immediate response.

Mexico has been in negotiations with the United States over a possible scheme to keep migrants in Mexico while their asylum claims are processed.

The team of Mexican President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, who takes office on Saturday, says no deal has been agreed on the migrants. But officials are hinting they could remain.

"We should be objective. Whatever happens, they will stay in Mexico," said Alejandro Encinas, an incoming deputy interior minister. "Migrants have

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rights and we will respect them."

U.S. government agencies defended the response to Sunday's incident at the San Ysidro crossing south of San Diego. News pictures showing children fleeing tear gas prompted sharp criticism from some lawmakers and charities.

British aid group Oxfam said in a statement the use of tear gas was shameful.

"Images of barefoot children choking on tear gas thrown by U.S. Customs and Border Patrol should shock us to our core," Vicki Gass, Oxfam America senior policy advisor for Central America, said.

Democrats and other critics called the use of tear gas an overreaction, and questioned the idea of keeping the migrants in Mexico to make asylum claims there.

Some rights advocates and legal experts were concerned that the Trump administration was seeking to exploit the melee.

Geoffrey Hoffman, a professor and director of the University of Houston Law Center Immigration Clinic which represents migrants applying for asylum, said the government would use it to push the argument that the migrants should remain in Mexico.

Still, Rodney Scott, chief U.S. Border Patrol agent in San Diego, told CNN the vast majority of those assembled at the border were economic migrants who would not qualify for asylum, and said there were few women and children.

"We should be objective. Whatever happens, they will stay in Mexico."

Alejandro Encinas, incoming deputy interior minister

"What I saw on the border yesterday was not people walking up to Border Patrol agents and asking to claim asylum," Scott said, adding that authorities had arrested 42 people.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security said U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers were struck by projectiles thrown by caravan members. U.S. officials reopened the San Ysidro crossing after closing it for several hours.

REUTERS

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READER WRITE-INS:

SOME SIMPLE RULES TO MAKE THE SUBWAY LESS HORRIBLE
Commuting is already a disaster as is. We don't need RUDE people to make it worse. Here are some simple rules to make commuting less miserable.

1 Always wait for passengers to get off before trying to stuff yourself in.

2 Always say "Excuse me" when trying to get by, or if you're getting off the train last-minute and need to run off.

3 NEVER PUT YOUR HANDS ON A STRANGER AND PUSH THEM OUT OF YOUR WAY BECAUSE YOU DECIDED TO GET OFF LAST-MINUTE, AND THEN CALL THEM "CLASSLESS."

4 Classy people keep their hands to themselves!!

— **Melissa**, *Metro US reader*

FOOLS RUNNING ON ESCALATORS
What's up with the fools who want to run up or down the escalator stairs. If you're in such a hurry, your butt should have taken the stairs that are in plain view. My answer to this day is still hell no, I ain't moving over!!! Stop asking!
—**Hammer Johnson**, *Metro US reader*

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GO THE EXTRA MILE ON 'GIVING TUESDAY'
Listen, everyone likes a good deal, and you probably saved hundreds on items over the past weekend with the Black Friday and Cyber Monday coupons out there on the internet. But while you were out there shopping for Christmas low prices on gifts and outfitting your wardrobe for the foreseeable future, some of those out there could use a helping hand. That's why, in line with these post-Thanksgiving traditions, we now celebrate what is known as "Giving Tuesday." Today, GoFundMe will be centralizing a list of places where you can donate to make a difference such a toys for foster kids, blankets for the homeless, care packages for troops, and food for the hungry. Head over to gofundme.com/cause/2018-holiday-drives to see how you can help.

Remember to send us your "Humbles" to **humble@metro.us** and we will publish them in this space every day.

ISTOCK

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries A change of plans will turn out to be to your benefit. Pay close attention to detail when dealing with matters concerning personal finances or handling someone else's affairs.

Taurus Listen and be supportive. Being accommodating now will position you well when something comes along that requires support from others. Domestic change requires patience.

Gemini Partnerships should be handled with honesty and integrity. If someone shows signs of manipulative tendencies, you are best off making clear what you want and expect to see unfold.

Cancer Take care of your responsibilities. Don't leave a job that belongs to you in someone else's hands. Dedication and loyalty will be of utmost importance when it comes to partnerships.

Leo Participate, network and make connections that will help you reach your goal. You can bring about change that will enhance your life, but don't get involved in a venture you can't afford.

Virgo Keep your thoughts and opinions to yourself. If you are too open about your plans, you will invite opposition. Being well-prepared will prevent interference.

Libra Look for alternative ways to get what you want. Learn all you can and set up meetings with people who can offer you solutions to a problem you face.

Scorpio A unique lifestyle will suit your current situation. Not everyone will agree with the decisions you make, but you have to do whatever works best for you.

Sagittarius A gift or financial gain is heading your way. If someone owes you money or a favor, now is the time to collect. Don't let emotions dictate the level of your indulgence.

Capricorn Consider the pros and cons before making a change. You will discover a better way to get what you want if you are patient and wait for something better to come along.

Aquarius If you express your feelings and goals, you'll receive feedback that will help you get things moving along. Personal improvements and romance are favored.

Pisces Be careful what you share with a friend, peer or relative. Information can be easily misconstrued to suit someone else's needs. Avoid exaggeration as well as indulgent behavior. EUGENIA LAST

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LIFESTYLE

Aristotle Athiras, Hasan Minhaj, Fahim Anwar and Asif Ali. ALL PHOTOS ROB KIM / GETTY IMAGES / COMEDY CENTRAL

Goatface hopes to do more after its first Comedy Central special

Aristotle Athiras, Asif Ali and Fahim Anwar talk about working with Hasan Minhaj and what comes next.

ANDREW HUSBAND
letters@metro.us

The "Goatface" special premieres on Comedy Central tonight.

By now, everyone with a Netflix subscription or at least some working knowledge of stand-up comedy knows who Hasan Minhaj is. The former "Daily Show" correspondent released one of 2017's most acclaimed comedy specials with "Homecoming King," and now he's releasing new episodes of "Patriot Act" every week. Yet before all of this came about, he created sketches with fellow comics Aristotle Athiras, Asif Ali and Fahim Anwar in the group Goatface.

On Tuesday, the four friends will reunite for "Goatface: A Comedy Special" on Comedy Central, which sees the former YouTubers making their television debut. While this all might seem new to general audiences, the troupe has been working together off and on since 2011. And as Athiras, Ali and Anwar explained in a recent interview with Metro, they won't be stopping anytime soon — no matter how busy everyone gets.

"We're very excited about where this is going to go," says Ali, who adds that they're especially "interested in seeing how the public reacts to" Tuesday's special.

"It will be nice to get some fresh eyes on it, too, because we're so close to it," notes Anwar. "It's hard to laugh after saying the same thing 100 times, so it'll be really cool to see it for the first time in other people's eyes."

Now that their first comedy special is locked, the guys also know which unused sketches or ideas they've been sitting on can be used for whatever comes next. Of course, that doesn't mean they're going to spoil anything before that happens.

"There are a lot of ideas that, for whatever reason, we couldn't do," says Ali. "There's one that I really love, but it ended up being so expensive. Too expensive, in fact. These are things that you don't really think about when you're just making YouTube videos with your buddies."

"When you're just bound by your imagination and whatever you can think of, it's not until someone else gets involved and says, 'You can't do that' because it would require a five-day shoot," adds Anwar, who can't stop himself from laughing.

Ali and Athiras can't stop laughing, either, which quickly turns the interview's closing moments into a series of riffs.

"They'd look at us like we're psychos and say, 'What do you think we are? The people that made "Avatar"? We can't make this with the budget we've allotted for you!'" jokes Athiras, who also directed the special. "The cool thing, though, is we have a lot of ideas already banked and ready to go for something else. So if and when they're ready for another special, we'll be ready to go, too."

"Goatface" premieres tonight at 10 p.m. on Comedy Central.

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'Adam Ruins Everything' episode on guns will 'piss people off'

GETTY IMAGES

We spoke with the show's host, Adam Conover, ahead of tonight's premiere.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

Adam Conover of the hit truTV show "Adam Ruins Everything" does not like to sugarcoat the truth. In fact, his show goes to great lengths to peel back the curtain on both sides of some of today's most complex issues to help viewers think outside of the box. "Adam Ruins Everything" returns tonight for a new season of the balloon-deflating truth bombs that made him famous.

Was the title of your show, "Adam Ruins Everything," something that you would hear a lot growing up?

[Laughs.] No one said that exact phrase, but that was definitely a theme in my younger life. The heightened comedy version of myself that I play on the show is in many ways based on a younger version of me. I've always been a very curious person. I've always collected information and have been an information sponge... I'm just addicted to this kind of information. I would tell people what I had learned when it would come up and they were rarely happy about it. People would be eating something and I would say, "Did you know that by buying an avocado you are indirectly supporting Mexican drug cartels?" Stuff like that! People weren't usually happy about learning that kind of thing, and they would really roll their eyes.

When you're a comedian, it becomes easier to make people laugh and it becomes harder to make people care about what you have to say. When I started doing it in my stand-up, I found out that people started to lean forward and listen to what I was saying. I was a writer at College Humor at the time. I put that into one of the sketches that I wrote with our original topic of diamond engagement rings. Because I had been so used to people being annoyed with me, I just wrote the other writers into the sketch being annoyed with me in the sketch. So I could head off any complaints in the writer's room of them saying that I was being pedantic. That ended up being the comedy engine for the whole series.

What are some subjects that will be brought up on the show this year?

Our season premiere is about guns, which is a topic that I had previously sworn that we would never do. Because I felt that people's minds were too made up on the issue. We do a show on common misconceptions and we do a show that explicitly tries to change people's minds. I felt that if we do an episode about guns, everyone in the country is going to say, "You better say what I want you to say and as soon as you don't, I'm changing the channel." It's very hard to make any headway in it. We talk about everybody's misconceptions about guns. I'm not going to say that it's a show that people "from both sides" can learn from, but I am going to say that it is a show that everyone in the country is going to be challenged by in some parts and hopefully have their mind expanded about the issue in what we hope are some productive ways. It's also going to piss a LOT of people off!

"Adam Ruins Everything" premieres tonight at 10 p.m. on truTV.

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Surrounded by syrup

Some Philly spots are offering delicious deals for National French Toast Day.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

Philadelphians, rejoice: National French Toast Day is right around the corner. On Wednesday, Nov. 28, some top local spots are serving up their most creative, unique and delicious French toast masterpieces to celebrate the syrup-filled holiday. Here is where to go in Philly for National French Toast Day.

Co-Op at The Study

The popular restaurant and lounge in University City is bringing two breakfast classics together in honor of National French Toast Day. Stop by and try their Cereal-Crusted French Toast, made with Fruity Pebbles cereal and malted ice cream. The combination is as tasty as it is colorful. Co-Op will be serving up its yummy masterpiece all day long on Wednesday for just $14. *20 S. 33rd St., coopphilly.com*

Square 1682

You can find an amazing French toast creation on National French Toast Day right in the middle of Center City. Stop in and indulge in the Cobbler French Toast at Square 1682, made with braised peaches, streusel, vanilla creme anglaise and local Pennsylvania maple syrup. Any Philadelphian with a sweet tooth will surely be happy and satisfied for just $16. *121 S. 17th St., square1682.com*

Red Owl Tavern

The Old City eatery is sticking to its rustic tavern feel with a delightful breakfast creation on National French Toast Day. Stop in and taste the Sweet Potato French Toast that will transport you to Flavor Town. The dish is made with pumpkin chantilly cream, molasses anglaise and sweet potato chips. It's the perfect cozy treat to help you warm up on a chilly winter day. The best part? The plate will be half-price for the entirety of breakfast service, just $8. *433 Chestnut St., redowltavern.com*

Urban Farmer

Treat yourself and try the tasty French toast creation from Urban Farmer this Wednesday. Philly's farm-to-table steakhouse is offering up its Brioche French Toast for the delicious holiday. The breakfast dish is made with hazelnut butter, cranberry compote and locally-made Pennsylvania maple syrup for just $12. *1850 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy., urbanfarmerphiladelphia.com*

Sweet Potato French Toast at Red Owl Tavern. PUNCH MEDIA

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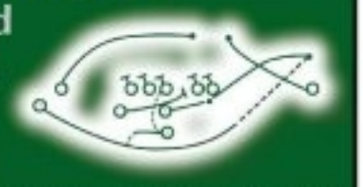

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The Philadelphia Wine & Cocktail Festival takes place this week.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

The booziest festival is right around the corner, Philly, and we all deserve a drink. The Philadelphia Wine & Cocktail Festival is the ultimate sampler; the event showcases the best wines, cocktails, and bartenders from around the city and country. Plus, there will be light bites from acclaimed local spots and live music to make the event truly special.

The Philadelphia Wine & Cocktail Festival will feature over 80 varieties of wine from local wineries, tequilas, whiskeys, bourbons and vodkas. Some participating venues include 3 Badge Mixology, Resurgent Bourbon, Partida Tequila, Kiki Vodka, Ampel Wine Company and The Renegade Winery. There is no time to waste: All guests will receive a complimentary commemorative sampling glass as soon as they walk in.

The festival has plenty of other delicious offerings other than alcohol. Chew on cheese samples from several cheeseries along with samples from multiple local restaurants including warm breads, savory bacon and sweet chocolates while you sip on your tasty cocktails. The best part? If you sample a wine you really like, there are select bottles available for purchase, so the party doesn't have to stop after the event is done.

Tickets to the festival allow three hours of nonstop concoctions, meaning you have three hours to indulge in as much food and drink as you want. There are also VIP options as well. Upgraded tickets include early admission (doors open at 5:30 p.m.) and access to VIP-only wines and cocktail samples during the first hour. The "Ultra-VIP" tickets raise the bar even higher. Purchasing these tickets gives guests access to the Ultra-VIP tasting tables with 10 tickets to sample super-premium products.

Philly spots are serving up delicious bites at the event.

The festival takes place in The Crystal Tea Room, one of the most aesthetically pleasing venues in the city with opulent crystal chandeliers and carved columns to impress any guest. It's the perfect backdrop to this colorful event.

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EAGLES DISCOVER RUNNING GAME AGAINST GIANTS

THE SPORTS PROFESSOR

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There are football traditionalists — call us dinosaurs — who've spent years imploring Doug Pederson to "just run the damn ball."

Sometimes, the coach complies. Last season, behind Jay Ajayi and LeGarrette Blount, the Eagles ranked third in the NFL with 132 rushing yards per game. As you may recall, they also won the Super Bowl.

These days, Ajayi and Blount are gone. And before Sunday's game against the Giants, the Birds averaged a lowly 98 rushing yards per game — 25th in the league. Not coincidentally, they were 4-6.

As Sunday's game unfolded, it looked like more of the same. Eleven of the Eagles' first 17 plays were designed passes. And they fell behind, 19-3.

And then?

Well, right around that point, Pro Bowl guard Brandon Brooks and a few linemates approached Pederson on the sideline.

"We said, 'Doug, put it on us,'" Brooks recounted after the game. "'Let's just run the ball.'"

To Pederson's credit, he listened. And by game's end, he got 27 fumble-free carries for 129 yards from running backs Josh Adams and Corey Clement.

The in-game strategy shift made perfect sense. Given the Eagles' injuries in the secondary, shortening the game by running the ball proved a great boost to the defense. It helped the Eagles offensive line, which has struggled to pass-protect. And it was a boon to quarterback Carson Wentz, who — let's be honest — hasn't played at peak form the last few games.

After the 25-22 win, Pederson insisted that running the ball was his intended approach from the start.

"I knew going in we were going to have to control the ball," he said. "I just wanted to help out those young guys on defense, quite frankly."

I'd praise Doug more here if he had seemed less intent on forcing the pass in the first quarter. Regardless, he eventually found the winning formula.

He also may have found a new lead running back. Josh Adams is a terrific story. Undrafted out of Notre Dame because of a foot injury, Adams began this season on the practice squad. He finally got his chance when Ajayi and Darren Sproles went down, and is averaging 5.2 yards per carry.

On Sunday, he became a workhorse for the first time, rushing for 84 yards on 22 carries, not including a 52-yard touchdown sprint up the middle that got called back because of a Jason Kelce hold. Adams muscled in another one-yard touchdown and also ran in a two-point conversion.

Now, of course, the question becomes whether Pederson sticks with him. The record shows the Eagles have averaged 127 rushing yards in their five wins this season, and just 79 in their six losses. Obviously, other factors are at play that impact those stats. But here's hoping the coach remembers what kept playoff hopes alive against the 3-8 Giants.

So it's on to hosting Washington at Lincoln Financial Field next Monday night. The Skins have lost three of their last four, as well as starting quarterback Alex Smith. Their hopes rest on Colt McCoy, a 32-year-old journeyman with a mediocre career QB rating of 78.6. Oh, and they like to run the ball a lot through a resurgent Adrian Peterson. Imagine that.

I'm not going to look beyond that game and forecast an Eagles return to the playoffs. This season has been too up-and-down to expect any contest to be easy.

But they're alive. And running the ball proved a great tonic Sunday. Here's hoping Pederson keeps listening to his offensive lineman moving ahead.

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Flyers let go Ron Hextall as team's GM

During Hextall's tenure as general manager, the Philadelphia Flyers had a record of 165-128-58.

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GETTY IMAGES

In a shocking development on Monday morning, Philadelphia Flyers president Paul Holmgren announced that Ron Hextall was relieved of his duties as executive vice president and general manager.

The organization has begun the search for his replacement.

"We thank Ron for his many significant contributions, but it has become clear that we no longer share the same philosophical approach concerning the direction of the team," said Holmgren in a statement. "In light of these differences, we feel it's in the organization's best interests to make a change, effective immediately. I have already begun a process to identify and select our next General Manager, which we hope to complete as soon as possible."

This surprising move comes as the Flyers were shut out 6-0 on Saturday night by the Toronto Maple Leafs. It was their fourth loss in the last five games and the third game out of five in which they allowed more than five goals.

Under the direction of head coach Dave Hakstol this season, the Flyers have struggled to start off games quickly, which has led to a disappointing record of 10-11-2 for 26 points. Some people believe that Philadelphia's slow start falls on the shoulders of Hakstol, while others place blame on Hextall.

Hextall joined the Flyers back in July 2013 as an assistant general manager and director of hockey operations after spending several seasons with the Los Angeles Kings as vice president and assistant general manager.

In May 2014, the former Flyers goaltender was elevated to general manager as Holmgren was promoted to team president. From there, Hextall went on to name Hakstol as the team's head coach in 2015 and tried to rebuild the minor league system.

Even though he was successful in rebuilding the system to a certain extent, the veteran talent on the ice was still struggling to make the playoffs. After getting embarrassed again in the first round of the Stanley Cup playoffs last season, Hextall made a splash in free agency and bought back former Flyer James van Riemsdyk.

While van Riemsdyk was added to provide a scoring punch, the Flyers still had a glaring need at goaltender. Hextall tried to remedy the situation last year with the trade deadline acquisition of Petr Mrazek from the Detroit Red Wings, which did not work out well.

This season, he came back with a ton of options in net consisting of Brian Elliott, Michal Neuvirth, Calvin Pickard, Alex Lyon and Anthony Stolarz. Elliott has been solid in between the pipes but is currently injured, while Pickard and Stolarz are just holding down the fort for the time being.

Carter Hart, who is the Flyers' top prospect and was drafted by Hextall in the 2016 draft, is waiting in the wings in Lehigh Valley. If Hart pans out to be a Vezina Trophy candidate and a top-tier goaltender, then that would be one major plus in the Hextall era.

The Flyers will hold a press conference on Tuesday morning at 11:00 a.m. to discuss the dismissal of Hextall.

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LEGAL NOTICES

Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, October term, 2018, No. 003649.

Notice is hereby given that on November 5th, 2018, the petition of: Sea Nam, praying for a decree to change his name to Quincy Nam. The Court has fixed court date December 14, 2018, at 10:30 AM, in Room No. 691 for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, September term, 2018, No. 3715.

Notice is hereby given that on November, 20, 2018, the petition of: DeVaughn Battle, praying for a decree to change his name to: DeVaughn Brown-Battle. The Court has fixed court date December, 14, 2018 at 10:00 AM, in Room No. 691 for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

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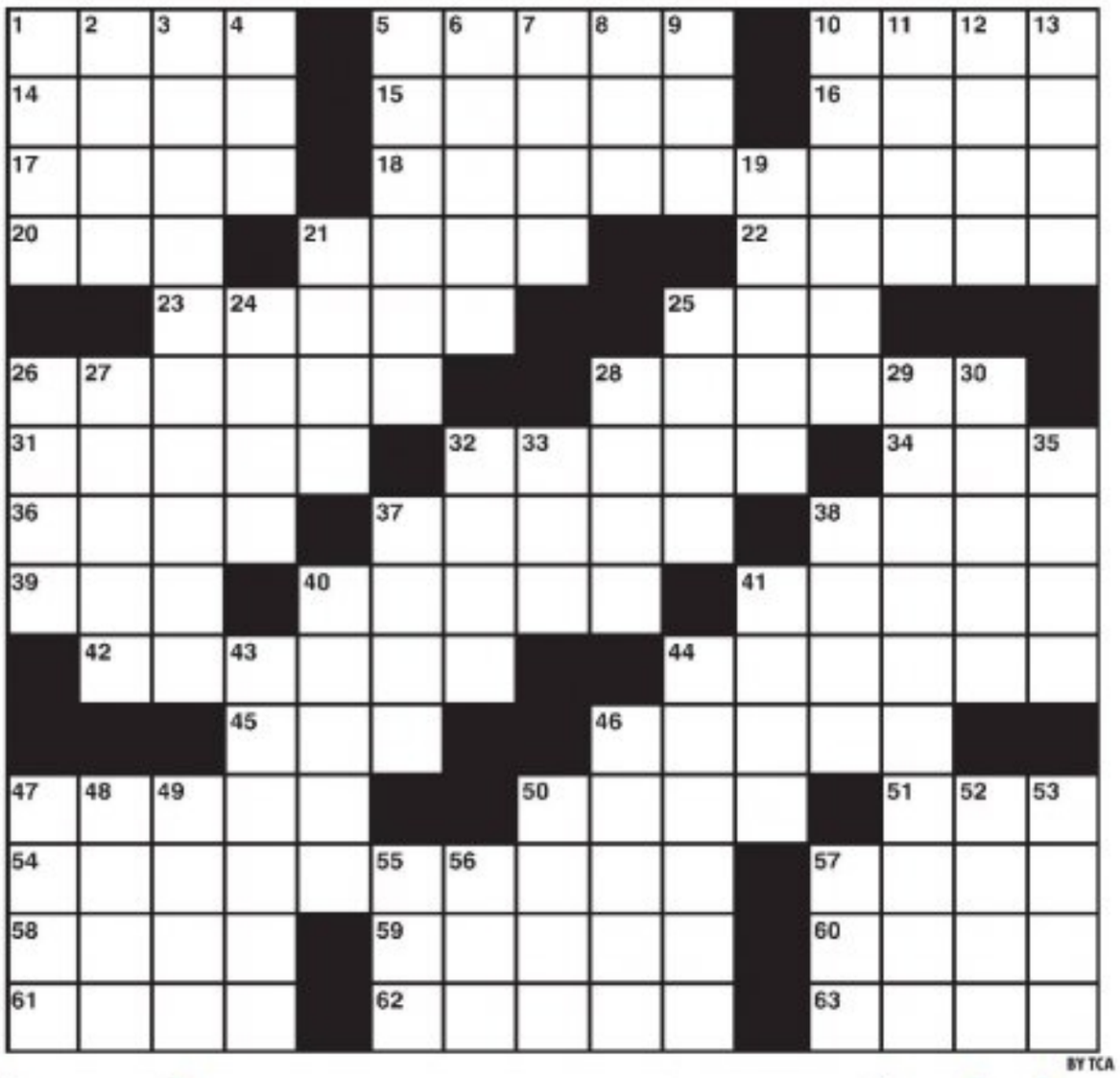

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ACROSS

1 In case
5 Celebrities
10 Glasgow native
14 "__ in Love with Amy"
15 Reservation dwelling
16 0, in tennis
17 Eager
18 Analyzes again
20 Coloring agent
21 Tie up
22 Chris with a racket
23 Penniless
25 Ike's monogram
26 Word attached to snake or trap
28 William Randolph or Patty
31 King's decree
32 Courtroom event
34 Wheel center
36 Piece of china
37 Britain's dollar
38 Vagabond
39 Police officer's title: abbr.
40 Hog's noise
41 Actress Greta
42 Unethical moneylender
44 One who dies for his beliefs
45 Sunbeam
46 Actress Delta
47 Egyptian dam
50 Belgrade native
51 Org. for Patriots & Packers
54 Hanging light
57 Michelin product
58 Bean curd
59 Baseball's Yogi
60 Singles
61 __ up; arranges
62 Domineering
63 Grows old

DOWN

1 Burden carried
2 1 of 7 Deadly Sins
3 Botanists & biologists
4 Turner or Allen
5 Take long steps
6 Very small
7 Mocked
8 Harrison or Linn
9 Baltic or Bering
10 Dieter's piece of pie
11 Megaphone's shape
12 Finished
13 Quiz
19 Olympics prize
21 Hit hard
24 Carve in glass
25 No longer with us
26 Actor Foxx
27 "Bye, Jacques!"
28 Helpful tip
29 Crisco product
30 Rather fat
32 Sightseeing trip
33 Trot
35 Rude slob
37 __ on; victimize
38 "__! The Herald Angels Sing"
40 $1,000
41 Attire
43 One of the planets
44 Singer Anne __
46 Frothy drinks
47 __ of the Apostles; biblical book
48 Boot or bootee
49 Float on the breeze
50 Letter opener
52 Liberate
53 Suffix for fear or care
55 Flow back
56 Zodiac sign
57 __ T; exactly

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C	T	R	Z	H	A	W	E	E	D
X	J	M	N	X	U	O	X	L	Q
M	X	J	I	M	I	O	P	P	R
H	E	S	U	O	H	D	E	R	G
A	E	C	D	E	A	S	R	U	U
N	D	N	Y	M	Z	T	I	P	I
T	I	J	D	A	E	O	E	W	T
W	O	K	L	R	R	C	N	G	A
E	W	P	K	Y	I	K	C	O	R
R	E	D	N	E	F	X	E	O	W

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Jimi
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L	Y	

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					7	2	8	
	4	2					7	9
7		1	8		2			3
	8		3			7	1	
2	7	5				4	3	8
	1	3			4		5	
9			1		8	3		7
5	3					1	9	
	2	7	9					

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E	Y	E		F	A	N			R	O	T	T	E	D
		A	P	A	R	T			I	D	O			
R	E	D	U	C	E			S	T	A	R	T	S	
E	L	A	T	E		T	R	E	E	S		R	I	B
E	B	B	S		W	O	U	N	D		F	I	L	E
L	O	L		S	H	R	E	D		D	I	V	O	T
	W	E	A	K	E	N			P	O	L	I	S	H
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